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# Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 32 | Min 21 | Humidity 90% Thundershower Sensex 62,724 | Nifty 18,601 | Gold 59,717 | Silver 73,128 | Dollar 82.47 | Euro 88.79 | GBP 103.44

## CLASS IN CHEATING

Fraud institutes saddle students with loans

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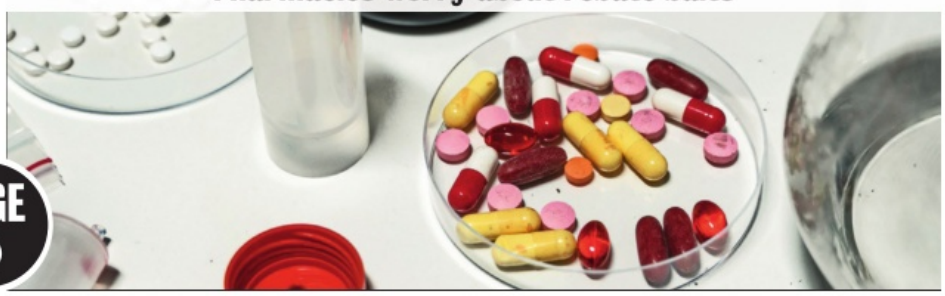
## BITTER MEDICINE

Pharmacies worry about rebate baits



### Site allottees wonder how BDA will go through plan to plant 40,000 saplings at its layouts, when there is no space to plant them and when it doesn't care to nurture the already planted ones

# WHEN GREEN SHOOTS SPROUT IN BDA'S SCHEME OF THINGS

### So far authority has only planted a negligible number of saplings at its sites

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The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) has prepared a plan for planting around 40,000 saplings during the monsoon. It plans to focus on vacant spaces, roads and parks at its layouts, including Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout and Dr Shivaram Karanth Layout. All well and good, but people allotted sites at the Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout point to one small issue -- there is just space to plant saplings at the layout.

As of now, the BDA has done very poorly when it comes to planting saplings at its layouts. It had planted saplings at Sir M Visvesvaraya Layout, Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout, and Dr Shivaram Karanth Layout but the number of saplings planted here is negligible.

"We planted thousands of saplings during the last year. We are planning to plant around 40,000 saplings during this year at the layouts developed by the BDA. We have no hurdles to procure the saplings as we have our own nursery

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

Saplings planted at Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout

**"There is no provision to plant saplings on both sides of the roads at the layout as one side of the road is allocated for a utility chamber and the other side is reserved for installing street lights**

– Surya Kuran, Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout Open Forum

# Let's meet under the flyover

### Best place to socialise? BBMP's new plan is to create public plaza under Sivananda Flyover

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The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is planning to construct a public plaza under the Sivananda flyover. Previously the Palike had proposed to construct a skating rink at the space.

By increasing the utility of the space, the Palike hopes to improve civic responsibility while keeping the space in use.

A senior BBMP official told BM, "It's a placemaking thought concept for the space under Sivananda flyover that will include people of all ages. People can sit under the flyover and relax. They can have interpersonal connections and conduct social gatherings. The space should represent the feelings of the people. It will be an open space with benches and people can use it for reading and socialisation."

However, Bengalureans have concerns about Palike's idea to create a space to relax under the flyover amidst the teeming traffic around. "These projects are not practical. It's not a place for community gatherings and poses safety risks. Community spaces should be built in the neighbourhoods where people live and not in intersections of high-traffic junctions.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

## 3 THINGS TO DO

### 01 Free camp

Samvaad Institute of Speech and Hearing, known to offer intensive and free speech therapy since 2012 and has helped people get back to their jobs, will be offering a free camp for people with aphasia. Senior speech language pathologist will be available for consultation.
**Where: Samvaad Institute of Speech and Hearing, Anandgiri extn, Hebbal; When: June 14 to 17; 9 am to 5 pm**

### 02 Talking point

Here's a chance for you to join Amita Nair, a novelist and Tanvi Srivastava (translator) in conversation with Lt Bharati 'Asha' Sahay Choudhry of the Rani of Jhansi Regiment, INA who authored 'The War Diary of Asha-San', and her son, Sanjay Choudhry.
**Where: Atta Galatta, 178, 5th Main, 9th Cross, 1st Stage Indiranagar (opp Cafe Terra)**
**When: Friday, June 16; 5:30–7:30 pm**

### 03 Play scenes

For theatre lovers, here's a chance to attend an English play by Tahatto Theatre Group, which is a 90 minute sci-fi romantic drama. 'Love in the Cholera of Time' is based on the Einsteinian Laws of time, Shakespearean whimsies of love, and some interesting facts. The story beautifully depicts the two lovers who are separated by the tyranny of time. **Where: Jagriti Theatre**
**When: Saturday, June 17; 3:30 pm and 7:30 pm**

**Shades of monsoon**

Dark clouds cover the sky over Vidhana Soudha on Monday

# Sketchy details of architectural beauty

## Bengaluru artist puts intricate architectural sketching in spotlight, creates art on A4 paper to make sure his art is accessible to all, not prohibitive

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When we visit ancient monuments, we tend to take pictures to preserve memories. But for Vivek Bangde, an architect turned artist based in Bengaluru, it has become a form of art. Hailing from Nagpur in Maharashtra, he sits in front of these ancient structures and sketches them in 10-15 minutes.

Vivek was inspired by his childhood days when his mother used to draw rangoli. After completing his architecture degree in Nagpur, he pursued his Master's degree in furniture and interior designing at the National Institute of Design in Ahmedabad. Currently, he works at a firm in the city and sketches on weekends. He has around 300 building artworks to his credit. The first sketch he did was of the Hampi stone chariot.

"I love Karnataka. In my early days, as part of my architecture course, I used to draw buildings. In 2010, I started a company called VB Design. This was originally my hobby. I like sketching, and I got trained in architecture for the same.

Professionally, I work as an architect, but I realised I don't find time for my hobby. I also realised that sketching can be taken to the next level. I used the terminology 'architectural sketching' with watercolour and ink. I travel a lot and look into various kinds of architecture," said Vivek.

**Vivek Bangde (in inset) has done five exhibitions, including those at prominent places like the NID and NIFT. He is also known to exhibit his artworks at affordable prices in cafes**

Vivek carries his sketchbook while travelling. He visits the heritage buildings and does a rapid sketch of the profile of the building in 10–15 minutes. He adds watercolours to it later. All his artwork is on A4-sized paper, which is easy to carry during his journey.

Explaining his motive to sketch, he said, "Generally, we find art to be very expensive, luxurious, and upmarket. I realised that common people don't have good works of art.

That's where I decided to jump in and draw different buildings. I exhibit the same in cafes and exhibitions, where I sell the same at affordable prices. Through this medium, I want to educate the youngsters as well."

He does the art entirely by hand, without the aid of technology. He draws with the pencil, inks it, and watercolours it. "Handskill is a dying art in India. Very few people know about this art. I want this to survive longer."

Vivek sketches both old and modern buildings.

"I had a lot of books when I was studying architecture. They introduced me to Mughal and Hindu architecture. I got a fair understanding of heritage buildings throughout India when I was a student. I personally love the old heritage buildings.

I mostly draw 18th–19th century buildings apart from colonial ones like churches in Bengaluru, forts in Jaipur, and gothic architecture in Mumbai. I sometimes draw modern architecture like buildings in New York, Spain, and Italy," he informed.

Talking about the difference between heritage and modern architecture, he said, "In heritage, there are a lot of artist's thoughts in it, and it takes a lot of time. The composition is manageable by adjusting the elevations. Although they are small and just have a ground floor, they are very intricate and have a story behind them.

Whereas modern buildings are 30–40 storeys high, for example, the Eiffel Tower. In modern design, there is a lot of geometry, and it is quick and production-based."

Vivek has done five exhibitions, including prominent places like the National Institute of Design (NID) and the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT).

# Manhandling of tourist: Shopkeeper tracked down

## Video of Youtuber being shoved around in Chickpet gains traction on social media; police arrest accused

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After the video of a Dutch Youtuber being manhandled in Chickpet started making rounds on social media, the police have now arrested the accused shopkeeper.

The Youtuber Pedro Mota in a video posted on his channel named 'Madly Rover' can be seen being harassed by a shopkeeper while trying to make a vlog on the market.

In the video titled 'Attacked at the thieves market in India', Mota can be seen recording his experience in the market when suddenly a man grabs his hand and questions him for filming a video. Despite initially greeting the man by saying "namaste" and asking him to let go, the man forcefully pushes him.

**"The person in the video has been identified, traced and action taken. No scope for such highhandedness in Namma Bengaluru against anybody**
– B Dayananda, Commissioner of Police

A videograb of the incident

Consequently, Mota hastily leaves the scene.

"Foreigner traveling in India experiences the thieves' market in Bangalore, also known as the Sunday market or chor bazaar. But exploring the area started out on the wrong foot as an angry man attacked me by grabbing and twisting my hand and arm, lunging after me as I tried to escape," the YouTuber wrote as the description of the video.

The video clip of the incident that happened in March surfaced on social media sites recently. Following the traction received by the matter, the police have now arrested the accused shopkeeper and identified him as Navab Hayath Sharif. Section 92 of the Karnataka Police Act that prescribes punishment for street offences and nuisance, imposing a fine that may extend up to Rs 100 has been slapped in the case. In case of defaulting on payment, the fine shall not exceed eight days, notwithstanding anything in section 67 of the IPC.

"It's an old video, which has come into circulation now. The person harassing in the video has been identified, traced and action taken. No scope for such highhandedness in Namma Bengaluru against anybody," the Commissioner of Police B Dayananda, said on Twitter.

Despite the harassment, the YouTuber managed to escape. Mudassir Ahmad, who captured the photos and videos of the incident, denounced the incident on social media, stating, "This random guy in Chickpet harassed a foreigner. Is this how we treat our guests?" He also called for action from the Bengaluru Police Commissioner and the jurisdictional Chickpet police.

Advocate Ashutosh J Dubey also condemned the incident, stating, "It is shameful that someone would act in such a disrespectful manner towards a foreign visitor who was visiting Bengaluru, India. Urgent action should be taken against that person." Lakshmikant (name changed), a resident, said that backpacking hostels and other hotels in the city which host tourist foreigners must be informed about the local authorities who can be contacted in case an untoward incident occurs.

"It is unlikely that they will know what to do immediately. The hosts of these tourists must ensure that they are provided with the necessary emergency contacts to get in touch with incase such an incident occurs," he said and added that authorities must respond with priority if a case of safety compromise is brought up by tourists.

In December last year, a South Korean woman vlogger was harassed in Mumbai by two men.

# Hands-on top cop

The newly appointed Commissioner of Police B Dayananda was out on the city's roads on Monday to check on the traffic along with Joint CP traffic from the traffic management centre.

Dayananda took to Twitter saying that managing peak hours on Monday's is a challenging job for the police so he has advised all the ACPs and DCPs to ensure smooth traffic flow in areas that see high traffic congestion.

"To identify any bottlenecks and take suitable corrective measures. Me along with Jt cp traffic are monitoring the situation from our traffic management centre. Holding one to one video conference with officers at the spot as well to understand the ground situation," Dayananda said in a tweet.

A day before he was also seen performing patrolling duties in the police patrolling vehicle. He said he wanted to have first-hand experience of how things are functioning and to get a good idea of how efficient 112 service is. He added that besides him, other ACPs, DCPs and additional CPs were also on patrolling duties to give their feedback and strengthen the patrolling system. **BMB**

# Auto driver stabs passenger to death after row over fare

**CRIME FILES**

An auto driver is said to have stabbed a passenger to death after a tiff over the fare in Yeshwanthpur. Two persons had boarded the auto after finishing their work at night, and the driver had demanded double charge. One of the passengers got into an argument with the auto driver and enraged by this, the auto driver stabbed both the passengers. One of them died on the spot while the other was seriously injured.

The deceased youth has been identified as Ahmed, 28 from Assam and his brother Ayub, who was taken to the hospital by the locals. Ahmed had come to Bengaluru for a job. He worked in a private company and lived in a rented house.

### 3, including infant, die in accident

Three people of a Bengaluru-based family were killed when the car in which they were travelling from a trip to Goa, collided into a lorry near Chitradurga. The deceased include a two-month-old.

The accident took place near the national highway in Gollarahatti Village in Chitradurga. About eight relatives from HSR Layout had gone on a trip to Goa on Saturday. **BMB**

### Couple found dead in washroom

A couple was found dead in the washroom of their house in Yelahanka, police said on Monday. The preliminary investigation has suggested that the couple may have inhaled poisonous gas released by the geyser in the washroom.

The deceased were identified as Chandrashekar from Chamarajanagar and Sudha Rani from Belagavi. The incident took place in Tarabanahalli in Yelahanka. Both worked at a star hotel near the Bengaluru International Airport.

According to police, locals said the couple were in a live-in relationship. The victims had closed windows and doors of the washroom and succumbed after inhaling carbon monoxide from the geyser, said the police.

The incident came to light a day after their death. The hotel staff came in search of them on Sunday noon, and when no response came from inside the victim's house, called the police. The police had to break open the door, and later found the bodies lying in the washroom. Further details are awaited. **IANS**

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# No rest for the weary

## High decibel noise throughout day from construction at Bagmane Tech Park irks residents

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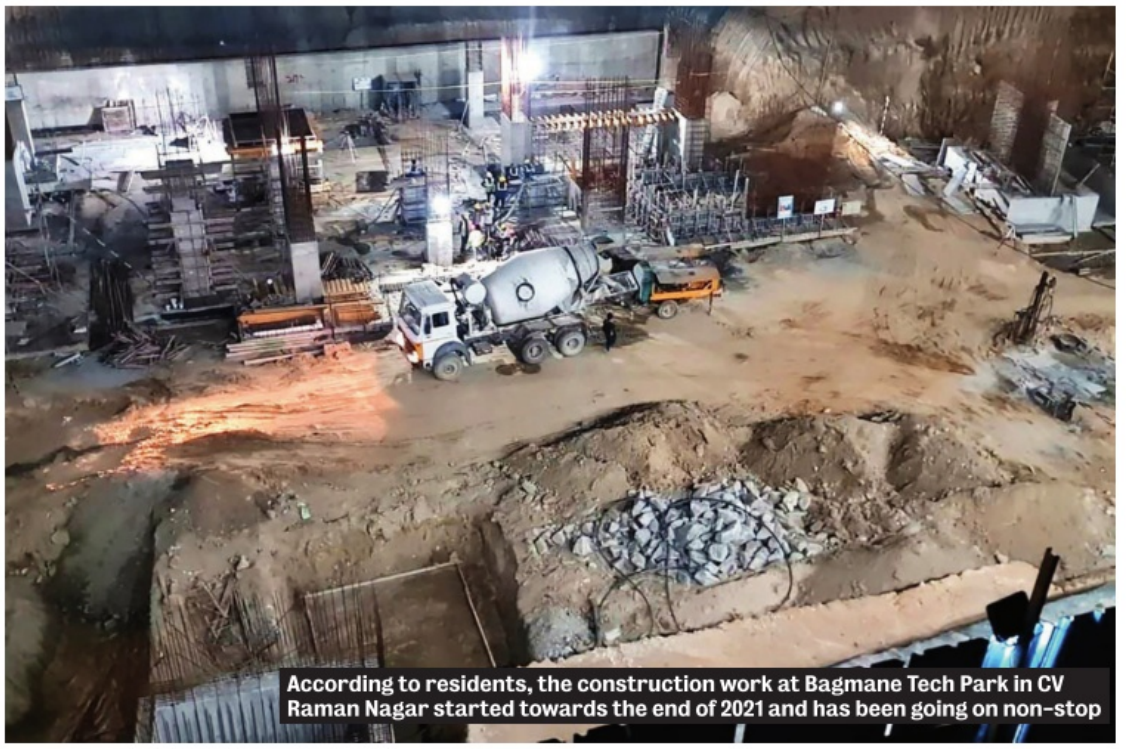

According to residents, the construction work at Bagmane Tech Park in CV Raman Nagar started towards the end of 2021 and has been going on non-stop

With 24*7 construction activities going on at Bagmane Tech Park, situated in a residential sub-locality of CV Raman Nagar, getting uninterrupted sleep at night has become farfetched for the residents in the area.

Locals allege that drilling machines being used to break rock formations and the movement of heavy vehicles throughout the night have created an unbearable situation.

"The construction work started towards the end of 2021 and has been going on non-stop. More often than not, it continues after the 10 pm mark as well and stops only around 5 am for nearly an hour. They are carrying out foundation work. Since the area has huge rock formations, heavy drilling machines with deafening noise are used even during the night hours," said a resident of the area.

Occupants of various apartment complexes in the vicinity complain that the noise level is so high, they wake up from their sleep. Those with young children are suffering the most.

"My son is five years old, and sometimes he wakes up at midnight and starts screaming. We keep all our windows and doors locked. However, the noise level is so high that we get up multiple times at night to check if the windows are locked," said another resident of the area.

While most of the residents have no other option but to put up with the nuisance, some have decided to relocate.

"We moved out of the area a couple of weeks ago due to the ongoing construction work. We had to relocate due to health issues owing to dust pollution and high noise levels. I have a young child, and he was diagnosed with a dust allergy.

Moreover, the nighttime sound level kept getting worse with big construction vehicles moving in and out of the site. My wife and I work from home, and the situation was getting out of hand. We had no other option but to look for another area to live in," said a resident who moved out.

After sitting still for months, waiting for the local police station to intervene, the residents have now reached out to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), seeking relief.

> **"We closed all the door and windows of our apartment, and the noise meter touched 100 dB multiple times on Monday night** – a resident

"Over the last couple of weeks, the situation has worsened as they expedited the work, probably to compensate for the time loss due to a few rainy days. We have not been able to get a good night's sleep for many nights now. We have now written to the state pollution control board for an intervention," said another resident.

Furthermore, residents said that they have measured the noise pollution level through smartphone software, and the readings are astonishing.

According to Central Pollution Control Board specifications, the permissible sound level (dB) in a residential area during the day is 55 dB and during the night is 45 dB.

"We closed all the doors and windows of our apartment, and the noise meter touched 100 dB multiple times on Monday night," informed another resident.

# Lake turns green and that's not good

## Activists raise concern about algal bloom in Devarakere Lake; say lake needs to be dewatered

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Devarakere Lake situated in ISRO Layout has been classified as class E three times in the past five months

Devarakere Lake in ISRO Layout, boasting of brimful water a year ago, is now filled with algal blooms, which has activists worried. They question the role of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) in arresting sewage entry into lakes.

The lake situated in the ISRO Layout, spanning over 7.2 acres, is now covered with algal blooms and has been classified as class E three times in the past five months.

Just a year ago, the villagers in the area formed the Devarakere Samrakshana Vedhike Walkers' Association to rejuvenate the lake. Following this, BBMP allocated Rs 1.3 crore for the restoration of the lake. Additionally, a jogging track, fencing of the lake premises, and a gate were planned.

Despite spending the allocated funds, authorities have failed to arrest the entry of sewage into the lake. A classification of the lake as class E indicates sewage inflow, and the frequency of three times shows the apathy of BBMP and KSPCB.

Raghavendra Pachhapur, a lake activist, told Bangalore Mirror that the water in Devarakere Lake is in a terrible state.

"Walkers have to bear the terrible stench of the lake. Over the last 5–6 months, the condition has worsened. Though the lake is rich in vegetation and biodiversity, the condition has worsened. Two sewage lines enter the lake from the eastern and western ends. Sewage is also entering through the rajakaluves.

Over this period, fish kills could have also taken place. I feel that the lake water needs to be dewatered," he said. Activists feel that KSPCB needs to take stern action to stop the entry of sewage into Bengaluru lakes.

"We need to question the role of KSPCB in arresting sewage from entering lakes. BBMP also fails to monitor the condition of lakes and take preventive actions. Despite so many officials appointed under BBMP's lake department and spending crores of taxpayers' money on rejuvenation, the situation of Bengaluru lakes is worsening," added Pachhapur.

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### Unsafe walk

**Sadashivanagar**

It's dangerous to walk on the footpath on 8th Main and Bellary Road, Sadashivanagar, as tiles and bricks move when stepped upon.

### Unclog it

**Marathahalli**

Rajakaluve at Marathahalli causes floods at nearby residential areas almost every year for the past 22 years during every monsoon, and it is yet to be fully cleared.

### Wrong flex

**Channasandra**

Illegal posters have been put up everywhere at Dr Vishnuvardhan Road, Channasandra.

# Pharmacies fear customers taking abnormal rebate bait

## 'Online pharmacies threaten our existence; jan aushadhi centres have become businesses'

Pharma retailers complain online pharmacies offer abnormal discounts

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Pharma retailers and distributors in the state have been demanding the state government to rein in online pharmacies that offer 'abnormal' discounts on medicines. They said that online pharmacies have become a major threat for the survival of pharma retailers and distributors in the state.

There are around 28,000 medical shops, including 8,000 medical stores in Bengaluru, employing more than three lakh people. The pharma retailers and distributors said that there would be no option for them rather than close down medical shops in the near future.

Recently, the Karnataka Pharma Retailers & Distributors Organisation (KPRDO) submitted a memorandum to Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dinesh Gundu Rao seeking the government's help to mitigate their woes.

"We are happy that Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao arranged a meeting for us with government officials. We have told them about our problems. We expect some positive response," said KPRDO president C Jayaram.

Jayaram said the online pharmacies have become a major threat to the pharma retailers and distributors. "The online pharmacies offer abnormal rebates against the norms. The other major issue is the entry of unauthorised people into pharma retail business. There are incidents of some people working at a medical store opening medical stores on their own after working for a few months at the medical stores owned by authorised people," Jayaram said.

The KPRDO members want the state government to follow the notification issued by the Punjab State Government on the guidelines for issuing retail and wholesale drug licences. "Many unauthorised people have opened pharma stores in the state," Jayaram said.

> **Unauthorised people are given licences to open Jan Aushadi Kendras. We offered to sell generic medicines at our stores, but in vain** – C Jayaram, KPRDO

The KPRDO members also demanded that the Minister direct the authorities concerned to ensure Jan Aushadi Kendras sell only authorised medicines. "We come across branded generic medicines being sold at Jan Aushadhi Kendras which is against the norms. Allowing sale of branded generic medicines at Jan Aushadhi Kendras will affect the pharma retailers," said KPRDO secretary Virupakshappa Kapparshettar.

The KPRDO members said the concept of Jan Aushadhi is to supply quality medicine at affordable prices to needy people and also create job opportunities for pharmacists. "Now it has become a business. Unauthorised people are given licences to open Jan Aushadi Kendras. We offered to sell generic medicines at our medical stores by keeping separate racks to store generic medicines but in vain," Jayaram said.

### Crackdown begins

Meanwhile, the Karnataka Drugs Controller has issued a circular to the authorities to stop advertisements of online pharmacies offering rebates on medicines and remove boards put up in front of medical stores offering rebate on medicines. The Drugs Controller has also directed the officials to verify the stock of medicines and sales receipts at Jan Aushadhi Kendras and also take action against wholesalers who supply medicines directly to the customers. The Drugs Controller also directed the authorities to verify the attendance register of authorised persons at the medical stores and submit a report soon.

# Fraud institutes leave students in deep debt

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The city has witnessed a few cases of educational fraud in recent months. Educational institutes promise job security and take loans on student profiles. The institute tells the student that they can pay after placement and the institute will pay the EMI on behalf of the students.

One such student is Nilesh Dhanraj Yadav, who got interested in doing a data science course from one such institute. The institute has now shut down in the middle of the course, leaving Nilesh to pay for everything without getting a job.

"Nowadays there is a lot of hype for jobs related to data science, so I was also interested. There are several ads on social media and on the internet so I decided to enrol in an institution named Geeklurn. Initially I put my credentials on their site and then their staff approached me on call. They informed me that they will be taking a loan on my profile of Rs 2,78,000, and they would pay my monthly EMI as a form of scholarship," said Nilesh.

Later, the institute refused to pay monthly EMI and students had to pay it from their own pockets. When the students approached the institute, they got to know that the institute was shutting down in the middle of the course without landing anyone a job. A case has been registered in Jayanagar police station regarding the same and arrests have been made.

"We agreed to the loan system trusting the 100 percent placement promise by the institute. And we were told that we will be getting a package of Rs 8 lakh. Now the owner has been arrested by the Jayanagar police and we are left to pay the EMI. This has happened to around 2,000 students of the institute, who are unable to repay the loan and the banks are calling us asking for payment," added Nilesh.

> **Institutes offer to take loans for students, say placements are guaranteed and then fold up in the middle of the course and vanish**

Another student who has been a victim of educational fraud in the city, Jhasaket, says, "We took a loan for the course, but my institution has disappeared. When I contacted the director of the institution, I was informed that they will sort the matter out by the end of April, but as of now nothing has been done. The bank is not calling us for payment as of now, but if we skip the payments for a few more months, I am sure we will start receiving notices," he said.

# 5,71,023 women used free bus service

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The Shakti scheme enabling free bus travel for women across Karnataka was inaugurated on June 11. The road transport corporations have said that a total of 5,71,023 women used the free bus service beginning at 1 pm on June 11, till midnight 12 pm. The total ticket value of women passengers who used the service stands at Rs 1,40,22,878.

The highest number of women (2,01,215) travelled in the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), with the ticket value amounting to Rs 26,19,604. At second stood the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) with 1,93,831 women using the service and the ticket value standing at Rs 58,16,178. North Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NWKRTC) had over 1,22,354 women travelling with the service at a ticket value of Rs 36,17,096 while the Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC) had 53,623 women use the service at the cost of Rs 19,70,000.

BMTC staffers perform a street play on Shakti Scheme for Women at Majestic bus stand on Monday

According to officials, the free travel service will benefit over 41.8 lakh women passengers every day and would cost the state exchequer an estimated Rs 4,051.56 crore annually. The free bus travel scheme is expected to significantly increase the ridership. However, the road transport corporations have said that they will induct more buses as per demand, recruit personnel, and revise timetables and rationalise schedules to meet the demand.

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# Indira Canteens' meals ready

## CM asks BBMP to set up at least 250 canteens, tweaks funding to make govt, BBMP contribution equal

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Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has instructed Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) officials to establish a minimum of 250 Indira Canteens, one in each ward of Bengaluru. Following a meeting on Monday, he announced that discussions have taken place regarding the resumption of Indira Canteens and that a change has been made to the funding mechanism.

Previously, the BBMP covered 70 per cent of the cost, with the remaining 30 per cent funded by the state government. However, it has now been decided that BBMP will cover 50 per cent of the cost, while the government will provide the remaining 50 per cent.

For Indira Canteens in other districts, the government will contribute 70 per cent of the cost, with local city bodies filling in the rest. The Chief Minister emphasised that authorities have been instructed to provide a list of suitable locations for establishing new Indira Canteens throughout the state.

To ensure the quality, quantity, and cleanliness of the food, proposed changes have been made to the Indira Canteen menu. However, there will be no revision in pricing.

Furthermore, the Chief Minister informed that the Indira Canteen project will resume after the completion of the tender process, which will be conducted sector-wise. In recent years, many Indira Canteens have been closed, and even the remaining ones are experiencing a decline in customers. Customers have also complained that the food served at these canteens is not up to standard. However, with Siddaramaiah assuming the role of Chief Minister, the canteens have received a new lease of life.

File photo of people eating food at an Indira Canteen during the covid-19 pandemic

> **"Presently, we have received feedback that the breakfast served for Rs 5 is insufficient in quantity**
>
> –Jayaram Raipura, BBMP

According to Jayaram Raipura, the Special Commissioner (Finance) of BBMP, an analysis of Indira Canteen and customer feedback suggests the need to diversify the menu.

Currently, lunch is priced at Rs 10 and is popular among customers, but there is little demand for dinner. Raipura noted that there is a noticeable trend indicating a preference for breakfast and lunch among the working class. Therefore, it is crucial to provide them with substantial and satisfying meals during these times.

He stated, "We will soon initiate tenders to operate Indira Canteens, and the contract will be awarded to the lowest bidder. Presently, we have received feedback that the breakfast served for Rs 5 is insufficient in quantity, and customers are demanding an increase. We are exploring various options, including matching the breakfast quantity with that of lunch, but this may require a price increase for breakfast."

The BBMP's priority is to ensure that the food served is both delicious and appetising, with breakfast portions equivalent to those of lunch. When asked about allegations of certain caterers providing false accounts of the food served, Raipura mentioned, "To address this issue, we have assigned marshals to oversee the food supply process and prevent any discrepancies. However, the caterers claim that there are pending dues that need to be resolved."

Over the past three years, the BBMP has not received any financial assistance from the state government to sustain the operations of Indira Canteens. As a result, the BBMP has approached the government to secure additional funds.

## New house? Free power is limited

If you are moving to a new house, you are entitled to only 58 units of free power, Energy Minister KJ George clarified on Monday.

"We have observed that the average power consumption per home in the state is around 53 units. Hence, we have decided that individuals moving to new homes or shifting residences will be provided with 53 units of free power, along with an additional 10 per cent," Minister George explained.

He further noted that this approach is being implemented due to the lack of available data. However, after one year, consumers can submit fresh consumption data, and their average consumption will be calculated accordingly. It's important to note that this provision only applies to those moving to new homes. For others, the average power consumption will be calculated based on the previous financial year, specifically from April 2022 to March 2023.

### Industrialists give government a week's time to withdraw the power tariff hike, plan to go on strike

Meanwhile, the recent power hike has left many consumers shocked as they received higher bills this month. Officials attribute the increase in power bills to the rise in power tariffs. Industrialists have expressed their discontent and threatened to go on strike, giving the government a week's time to withdraw the power hike; otherwise, they will resort to agitation.

Addressing the issue, the Energy Minister clarified that the power bill hike occurred during the previous BJP government's tenure and cannot be reversed immediately. However, he assured the public that the matter was under review. "I have instructed the secretary to verify the reasons behind the hike, and if they are found to be genuine, we will pursue a review of the situation," he stated.

—BMB

# Illegal so what? This forest needs hanging bridge

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Wildlife conservationists and activists have alleged that the Karnataka Forest Department is promoting another illegal structure, a hanging bridge, inside the Kali Tiger Reserve as a tourism spot.

According to the conservationists, the bridge was brought to the notice of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) a couple of years ago and NTCA had sought a factual report from the department regarding the same. While the department is yet to submit the report, the bridge is being publicized by the department.

"The hanging bridge is located in the Shivpur area of the reserve, which is not a tourism zone as per the project tiger guidelines. However, the department is promoting the structure as a tourism spot and charging entry fees. The structure was brought to the notice of NTCA and the authority had then raised questions regarding the development," said a wildlife activist.

Kali river in the Western Ghats

Conservationists say that every tiger reserve has a tiger conservation plan and NTCA demarcates tourism zones for respective reserves. The bridge is not part of the tourism zone as per the plan.

In the past, NTCA has written to the Chief Wildlife Warden of Karnataka on multiple occasions, appealing to take action against officials of Kali Tiger Project and NTCA southern zone officials for violating the Forest Conservation Act by allowing illegal construction activities in the tiger reserve; the most recent one was dated May 30.

The series of letters are being issued by the authority after locals and wildlife conservationists alleged and highlighted the issue of illegal construction activities inside the reserve forest without due approval. An orchidarium, jungle safari, and canopy walks were some other illegal projects brought to NTCA's notice.

> **"NTCA has the power to stop funds in case of violations. However, these options are not being exercised**
>
> –City-based conservationist

Activists allege while the authorities, including NTCA, are aware of violations, they are shying away from issuing specific instructions.

"NTCA has been writing to the department either seeking factual reports or appealing to them to act. No other steps have been initiated so far. Issuing reminders, a couple of times is fine, but it is not acceptable if just reminders are issued for years at a stretch without any action taken," said a conservationist.

**Selling stake**
The family of IndiGo's co-founder Rakesh Gangwal was likely to sell between 5%-8% stake in the airline's parent InterGlobe Aviation Ltd

BangaloreMirror | 7
Tuesday, June 13, 2023
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# 'No breach in CoWIN, reports mischievous'

## Matter reviewed by nodal cyber security agency CERT-In; portal has adequate safeguards, says health ministry

**#NEW DELHI**

The government on Monday said reports claiming a breach of data of beneficiaries registered on the CoWIN platform were "mischievous" and "without any basis", and that the matter has been reviewed by the country's nodal cyber security agency CERT-In.

The CoWIN portal is completely safe with adequate safeguards for data privacy, the Health Ministry said in a statement, adding an internal exercise has been initiated to review the existing security measures. Rajeev Chandrasekhar, the Union Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, said the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) immediately responded and it does not appear that Cowin app or database has been directly breached.

He said a Telegram Bot was throwing up Cowin app details upon entry of phone numbers. "The data being accessed by bot from a threat actor database, which seems to have been populated with previously breached/stolen data stolen from the past. It does not appear that Cowin app or database has been directly breached," the minister said.

The health ministry said there are reports alleging the breach of data from the CoWIN portal, which is a repository of all data of beneficiaries who have been vaccinated against COVID-19.

"It is clarified that all such reports are without any basis and mischievous in nature. Co-WIN portal of the Health Ministry is completely safe with adequate safeguards for data privacy," it said.

Furthermore, security measures are in place on CoWIN portal with web application firewall, regular vulnerability assessment, and Identity and Access Management, it said.

"Only OTP authentication-based access of data is provided. All steps have been taken and are being taken to ensure security of the data in the CoWIN portal," the ministry said.

File photo of people trying to register into Cowin for covid-19 vaccination

"CERT-In in its initial report has pointed out that the backend database for Telegram bot was not directly accessing the APIs of CoWIN database," the statement said. It said certain Twitter users have claimed the personal data of individuals who have been vaccinated is being accessed using a Telegram (online messenger application) Bot.

It is reported that the bot has been able to pull individual data by simply passing the mobile number or Aadhaar number of a beneficiary, the ministry said. The CoWIN was developed and is owned and managed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. An Empowered Group on Vaccine Administration (EGVAC) was formed for steering the development of COWIN and for deciding on policy issues. At present, the statement said, individual-level vaccinated beneficiary data access is available at three levels.

The first is the beneficiary dashboard -- the person who has been vaccinated can have an access to the Co-WIN data through use of registered Mobile number with OTP authentication. The second is CoWIN authorised user -- the vaccinator with use of authentic login credentials provided can access personal level data of vaccinated beneficiaries. And, then there is API-based access -- the third party applications who have been provided authorised access of Co-WIN APIs can access personal level data of vaccinated beneficiaries only through beneficiary OTP authentication.

The COWIN system tracks and keeps record of each time an authorised user accesses the COWIN system, the statement said.

"Without OTP, vaccinated beneficiaries' data cannot be shared to any BOT," the ministry said.

It further said only the year of birth is captured for adult vaccination but it seems that on media posts it has been claimed the Bot also mentioned the date of birth. Also, there is no provision to capture the address of the beneficiary, it said. – PTI

# Balasore train crash probe: 5 rail employees come under scanner

**#New Delhi**

Five railway employees, including the station master of Bahanaga Bazar, are being investigated in connection with the three-train accident in Odisha's Balasore district that claimed 288 lives, official sources said on Monday.

The four other employees perform signalling-related job and were on duty at the time of the accident earlier this month, they said. The sources said the five employees are discharging their duties at present and any future action would depend on the accident probe report prepared by the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS).

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is conducting a separate probe into alleged criminal negligence leading to the accident at Bahanaga Bazar station on June 2. Railway Ministry officials have indicated a possible manual tampering of the interlocking system which turned the signal for the Coromandel Express to green and guided it to the loop line where it collided with a stationary goods train. An interference with the interlocking system, which is an automated signalling system, is being seen as the major cause of the incident. "Five railway personnel are currently at the centre of the probe. A final report from the CRS is expected soon," a senior rail official, who did not wish to be named, said. Three possible scenarios are being probed -- whether the tampering of the system was intentional or by mistake or a consequence of maintenance work underway in the area -- the sources said. Meanwhile, two rail workers' unions have come out in support of the national transporter amidst harsh criticism from the Opposition parties over the accident.

– PTI

File photo of rescue workers at the site of the train crash in Balasore

# Biparjoy: 56 trains towards coastal Gujarat to stop short of destination

**#Mumbai**

The Western Railway on Monday short-terminated more than 50 trains heading to coastal areas of Gujarat in view of powerful cyclone 'Biparjoy' and is considering cancellation of several trains over the next three days, a release said.

The WR is taking various measures including setting up disaster management rooms, help desks, and keeping relief trains ready.

The wind speed is being monitored at five locations in Bhavnagar division, at eight sites in Rajkot and at three spots in Ahmedabad division on an hourly basis and station masters have been instructed to regulate or stop trains when the wind velocity exceeds 50 kmph, as per the release. According to IMD, 'Biparjoy' is likely to make landfall near the Jakhau port in Kutch district on Thursday afternoon as a 'very severe cyclonic storm' with maximum wind speed reaching up to 150 kilometres per hour.

"As many as 56 trains heading to Gandhidham, Veraval, Okha, Porbandar in coastal Gujarat have been short-terminated at Ahmedabad, Rajkot and Surendranagar. Around 95 trains are being proposed for cancellation between June 13 to June 15," the release said. Sumit Thakur, chief public relations officer (CPRO), WR, said passenger trains scheduled from June 12 onwards in the vulnerable sections are being reviewed and necessary decisions will be taken. "Several trains have been cancelled and short-terminated as a precaution," he said. – PTI

# 3 injured in gunfight in Manipur

**#Imphal**

Three persons were injured in a gunfight between village volunteers and a group of militants at Khamenlok area situated on the border of Imphal East and Kangpokpi districts of ethnic violence hit Manipur on Monday, police said.

The three were admitted to a hospital in Imphal where the condition of one is stated to be critical.

Sporadic firing continued for some time, as additional forces were sent there to bring the situation under control, police said.

No major incidents of violence were reported in the past three days.

Meanwhile, an Army official said a bridge at Leitanpokpi in Imphal East district was made serviceable by the force after it was damaged by miscreants last month.

The repaired bridge now facilitates fast transportation of relief material to Leitanpokpi, Champai and Pukhao Phurju localities, the official said.

At least 100 people lost their lives and 310 others were injured in the ethnic violence between Meitei and Kuki community people in Manipur that broke out a month ago. Army and para-military personnel were deployed to restore peace in the state.

Curfew remains in force in 11 of the 16 districts of Manipur, while internet services are suspended in the entire northeastern state.

Clashes first broke out on May 3 after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status.

Meiteis account for about 53 per cent of Manipur's population and live mostly in the Imphal Valley.

Tribals Nagas and Kukis constitute another 40 per cent of the population and reside in the hill districts.

– PTI

Security personnel stand guard after fresh violence in Manipur

# BDA plans to plant thousands of saplings at its layouts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that is being maintained at Sir M Visvesvaraya Layout," said BDA forest officer.

He said that thousands of saplings were planted at the buffer zone of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout. "We planted saplings along storm water drains at the layout. Most of the vacant space along the storm water drains is filled with debris and garbage," the forest officer said.

The forest officer said that saplings including honge, mahogany, tabebuia, neem, tabebuia avellanedae, sampige and other varieties would be planted at the layouts. "We are planning to plant 20,000 saplings at Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout, 10,000 saplings at Dr Shivaram Karanth Layout, 5,000 saplings each at Sir M Visvesvaraya Layout, Banashankari Layout and around 5,000 saplings at Anjanapura Layout.

People allotted sites at Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout said that there is no space at the layout to plant saplings. "There is no provision to plant saplings on both sides of the roads at the layout as one side of the road is allocated for a utility chamber and the other side of the road is reserved for installing street lights. The BDA did not maintain the saplings planted at the layout all these years," said Surya Kuran, spokesperson of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout Open Forum.

Blaming the BDA for ruining a large number of trees at Dr Shivaram Karanth Layout, M Ramesh Ramagondanahalli, an activist, said the BDA could not plant a single sapling at Dr Shivaram Karanth Layout as the developmental works are in progress.

"The BDA officials have ruined many trees at the layout. I don' t think the BDA officials can plant any saplings for the next five years due to the on-going developmental works," he said.

# Residential school incharge arrested after minor girl student's death

#Shivamogga

The incharge of a residential school in Shivamogga district was on Monday arrested in connection with the death of a 13-year-old girl student. The victim died in suspicious circumstances on the way to the hospital from the school in Sagar town on June 8.

The arrest was made following the statement of the victim's two friends and classmates and her aunt. Sagar rural police have taken up further investigation.

Police said the victim was a daughter of a farmer of a village located near Sagar town in Shivamogga. With a dream to give his daughter education, he had got her admission done at the residential school in Sagar town.

**Five days after her admission, the victim fell seriously ill and had not woken up in the morning**

Five days after her admission, the victim fell seriously ill and had not woken up in the morning. The girl had developed the symptoms of vomiting and loose motions and became unconscious. She was rushed to the hospital where the doctors declared her dead.

The accused, after the incident, claimed that the girl had developed leg pain. Gel and oil was applied to her leg and rasam served to her. The same rasam was eaten by him and all the children. In the morning, all students should come to drink water but the victim had not turned up. She vomited and claimed fatigue, and immediately she was shifted to the hospital and declared dead.

He also maintained that the doctors suspected it to be a case of cardiac arrest and a post mortem report would ascertain the exact cause of death. However, following the fresh statements, the police have booked a case under the Pocso Act and arrested the school head.

The post-mortem examination of the girl has been conducted and the police are awaiting the reports from the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL). Investigation is on. –IANS

# Relax and read amid heavy traffic

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The responsibility of developing civic amenities lies with BDA and BBMP and nowhere in the planning law does it state that such amenities should come up on roads. Instead, a portion of parks and BBMP-owned schools can be utilised for developing such spaces. The whole point of civic amenity (CA) sites in the Masterplan is to accommodate these facilities," said Ashwin Mahesh, a mobility expert.

Often spaces under flyovers are underutilised or misused by miscreants. The vacant space available and poor lighting makes it an easy spot for dumping garbage too. Palike has been in the process of beautification of this area under flyovers with space-saving techniques.

The project is part of the package project of four flyovers including Trilite Junction, Anand Rao Circle and BHEL Circle at Mysore Road. The whole project is estimated to cost around Rs 10 crore.

Previously, the BBMP had proposed a skating rink and sports area under the flyover. But the project was halted due to opposition by residents stating safety concerns. BBMP officials clarified that the proposal was held back due to a lack of adequate space for the skating rink.

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**I,** Allah Bakash S/O Abdul Rasheed #2818 kavalbyrasandra B'lor 32 have changed my name to Abdul Raheem for all purposes.

**I** Nanjundapp S/O, Nanjappa R/o No 222, 2nd Cross, Ashreya Nilaya, Doddabommasandra, Vidyaranyapura Post, Bangalore 560097 have changed my name to Nanjundappa N

**I** Pankaj Ratan Lal S/O, Rajiv Ratan Lal R/o A405, Fern Saroj Apt, 7a Cross, L B Shastri Ngr, Vimanapura, Bangalore notifies correction of name from Pankaj Lal to Pankaj Ratan Lal for all purposes including passport. Notarized by B.M. Chandrasekhar No. LAW-LCL/329/2021 vide certificate no IN-KA79920 797590975V dated 13 Feb 2023.

**I** ANNIE OOMMEN spouse of No. 138632Y Rank Ex NK(TS) Name Thomas K D residing at No.259 3rd Main 8th Block Koramangala Bengaluru 560095, have changed my name from ANNIE OOMMEN to ANNIE THOMAS vide affidavit dated 10th June 2023 sworn in before Notary A S Narayana Reddy Bengaluru

**I,** PRIYANKA J #29/A, 2nd Cross Rd, 6th Main Rd, K.G. Lyt, Laggere, Peenya Small Industries, Bangalore–58. I, have changed my name to PRIYANKA EMMANUEL, Vide affidavit dated 09/06/2023 Sworn before Notary: Sivakumara. M.N, Bangalore

**I,** Jha Prasannjeetkumar Bijendra R/o 22, Balaji Anugraha, 2nd main road, Vijayshree Lyt, Kodichikkanahalli, Bengaluru 560068 have changed my name to Prasnnajeet Bijendra Jha, affidavit Dt.12/06/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M. V, B'luru

**I** Padmakshi W/O, G R Sathyanarayana R/o No 327, Flat No 201, 2nd Floor 3rd Main, 13th Cross, Bel 1st Block, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore 560097 have changed my name to Padmakshi Sathyanarayana

**I** Vaibhavi Vivekanand Siddhanti W/O, Nikhil Desai R/o D/o 1135, 11th Cross, West Of Chord Road, Mahalakshmipurm, Bangaluru, - 560086 have changed my name to Vaibhavi Siddhanti for all purposes.

**I,** Vidhya Mohan W/o Mohan Unnikrishnan, R/o #478, 2nd cross, MM Layout, Kavalbyrasandra, R.T.Nagar post, Bengaluru- 560032 have changed my name to Vidhya Ravindran dated 12/6/2023.

**I,** Khadar Sab R/at 45 4th Cross Kaveri Nagar R T Nagar post B'lor-32 have changed my name to Khadar Pasha for all purposes.

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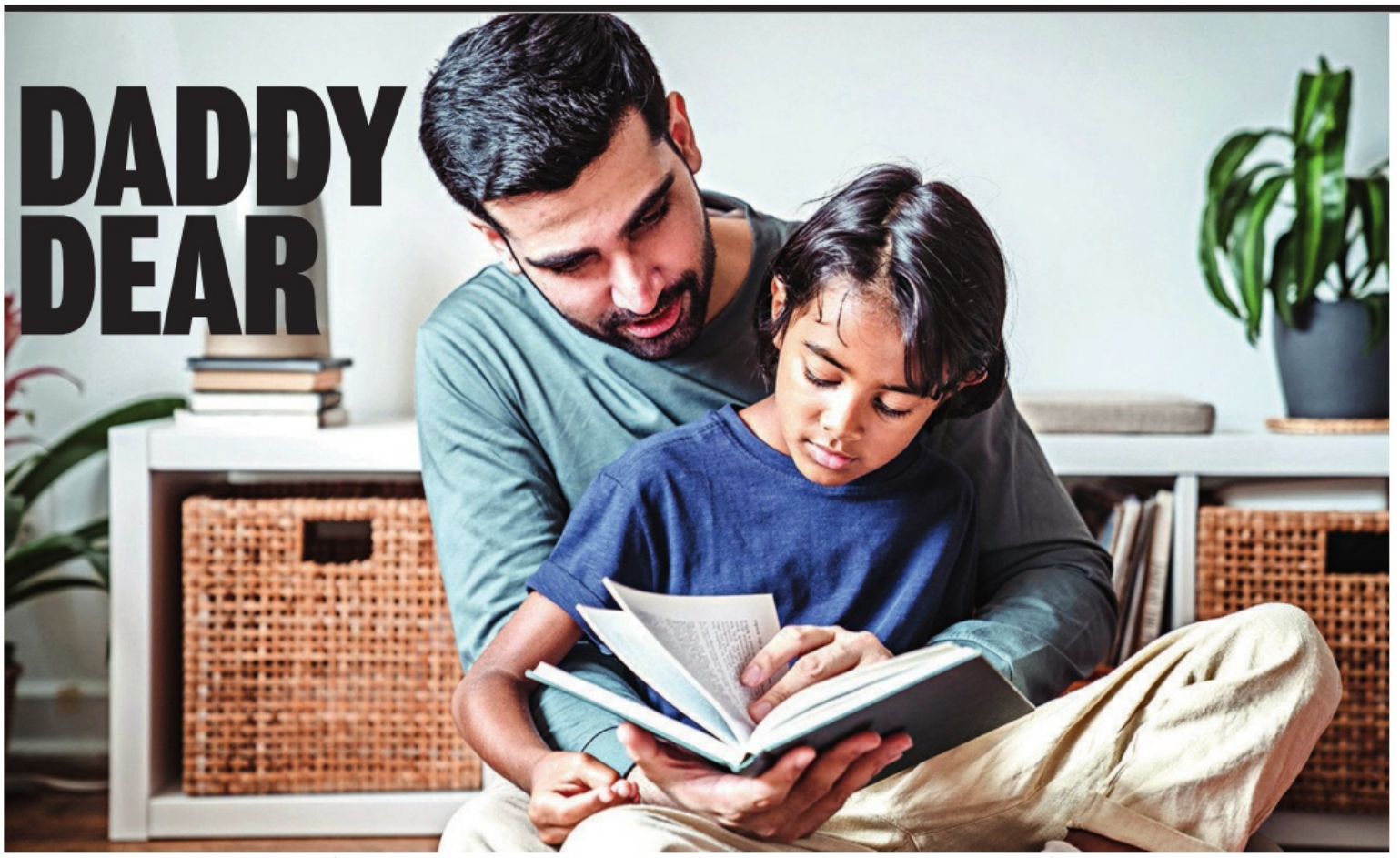
# DADDY DEAR



## Nurturing dads raise emotionally intelligent kids – helping make society more equitable

When my oldest son was born in July of 2008, I thought I could easily balance my career and my desire to be far more engaged at home than my father and his generation were. I was wrong.

Almost immediately, I noticed how social policies, schools and health care systems all make it difficult for dads to be highly involved and engaged at home. Contradictory expectations about work and family life abound.

As a fatherhood researcher with four kids of my own, I am convinced that fathers are transformative figures for children, families and communities.

But a man's mere presence, paycheck and willingness to punish misbehaving children is not nearly enough. Many of the benefits of fathering for children come from dads being nurturing, loving and engaged in all aspects of parenting.

When fathers are caregivers – when they provide emotional support and act affectionately toward their kids – the effects go well beyond growth, development, good health and solid grades. My research shows the benefits also include having children who value emotional intelligence, gender equality and healthy competition.

### Nurturing versus stoic dads

Thinking about the broad impact fathers have, I analyzed how fathering affects different social values – such as a belief in gender equality – in May 2021.

Surveying more than 2,500 American fathers 18 and older, I found that involved fathering has a long-lasting impact on the personal principles and cultural perspectives of children.

In my survey, the differences between the least nurturing and the most nurturing fathers are stark.

Surveyed fathers who reported that their own fathers were highly withdrawn tended to be hypercompetitive, emotionally stoic and unappreciative of women's contributions outside the home.

In contrast, surveyed fathers who said they had highly nurturing dads were much more likely to achieve their goals in a healthy manner, be more emotionally open and believe in equitable partnership.

### How dads instill values

Several decades ago, many fathers were unwilling or unable to provide their children with emotional support or physical care. Instead, they focused on breadwinning, children's discipline and simply being present in the home.

These traditional norms left many contemporary fathers ill-equipped for modern parenthood. Contemporary social norms set broad expectations for fathers: rule enforcement and economically supporting the family while also providing for children's physical and emotional needs.

Broad paternal involvement with kids is important because dads have unique effects on kids. Children's values, beliefs, emotional expression and social development are strongly associated with fathering. Kids are better regulated emotionally, more resilient and more open-minded when their fathers are involved in their education and socialization.

Boys, for better and worse, often mirror the habits, interests and values of their own fathers.

My colleague Scott Easton and I found that how one's father behaves is especially powerful given that cultural, social and institutional norms about fatherhood are much weaker than they are for motherhood.

For example, mothers have traditionally been known for showing children affection and providing emotional support. Social expectations for these behaviors are not well defined among fathers. As a result, dads have a much larger impact on their sons' fathering behaviors than moms have on their daughters' mothering behaviors.

Positively, this means that a sizable portion of men replicate the best attributes of their own fathers – such as being loving and affectionate. Negatively, this means bad behaviors – such as extremely harsh discipline – are sometimes repeated across generations.

However, some men compensate for their own fathers' poor or nonexistent parenting by forming their own ideas and values about parenting.

### Benefits for all

The findings from my survey build on decades of research on the benefits of positive fathering. And these advantages aren't just for children.

Mothers and other parenting partners are healthier and happier when fathers are highly engaged with their kids. Men who care for and support their kids benefit too – with improved self-image, life purpose and relationships. And communities gain increased trust and safety from the relationships built when fathers positively participate in their kids' activities, schooling and social networks.

### Valuing supportive fathers

How can American society ensure that healthy competition, emotional openness and respect for women are widespread among future generations of men and fathers? Part of the answer is by valuing loving, supportive fathering.

That means more support for fathers in workplaces, public policy and institutions. Paid family leave, flexible work arrangements and integration of fathers into prenatal and postnatal care are all effective ways to encourage fathers to be more involved.

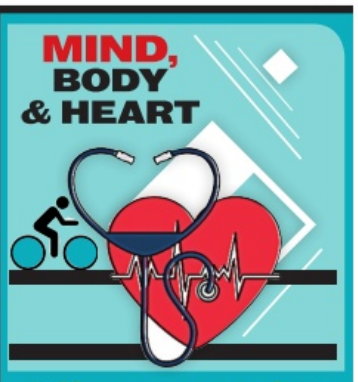
Many fathers increased their share of child care tasks during the covid-19 pandemic. These shifts may become permanent, ultimately changing cultural values around parenting and gender roles.

Society also needs to provide clearer messaging to fathers about what does and does not work in parenting. For example, my colleagues and I have shown that men who believe they should be nurturing parents are more involved in their children's lives. Fathers who demonstrate healthy masculine traits like assertiveness and strong goal orientation also tend to be sensitive, engaged parents.

Thus, there are many routes to transformative fathering. And this is not simply behavior for biological fathers. Fatherhood is broadly defined, and people often look to non biological father figures like relatives, stepfathers, foster fathers and unrelated mentors.

All men who support and care for children have a critical role to play in instilling positive social values in future generations.

*Kevin Shafer, Brigham Young University, The Conversation*




## All you need to know about...

*Lipoedema*

**What is it?**
Lipoedema, not to be confused with lymphoedema which may result from radical surgery for cancer, is more common in women than men. It's the abnormal build-up of fat in the legs and sometimes arms, and may be tender and make movement cumbersome.

**What are the symptoms?**
It's usually symmetrical. A common pattern is heavy legs, a narrow waist and a much smaller upper body. Quite often the skin over the fat is dimpled with an orange peel appearance. There's a tendency to bruise easily and lipoedema can cause flat feet, knock knees and joint problems.

**What is the treatment?**
Your GP may refer you to a specialist for treatment. There's currently no cure, but there are things that can help and stop it getting worse. The main treatments are:
Wearing compression stockings or bandages to reduce pain and discomfort, and to make it easier for you to walk
Looking after your skin, for example by regularly using moisturising cream to stop your skin drying out
Eating healthily, doing more exercise and trying to maintain a healthy weight
Counselling or cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) if you're finding it difficult to cope with your symptoms and feel depressed Liposuction to get rid of some fat if your symptoms are particularly severe. More than one operation may be necessary.

**—Dr Miriam Stoppard, Daily Mirror**

# Chai-Time

## SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

2+3 = 13; 4+5 = 41
6+7 = 85; 8+9 = ??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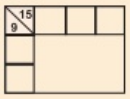
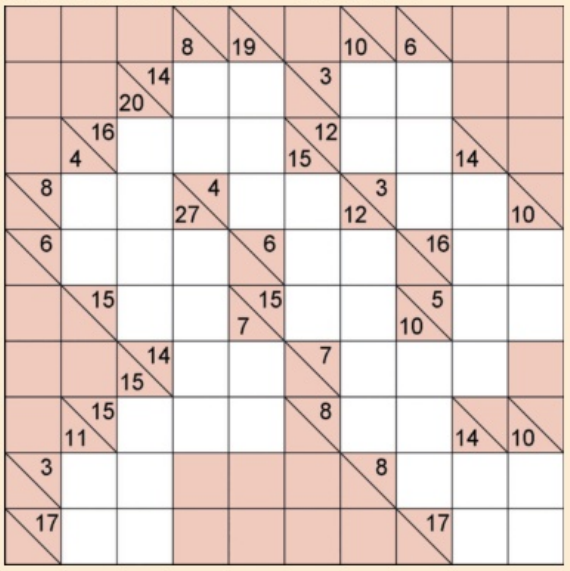
## Kakuro

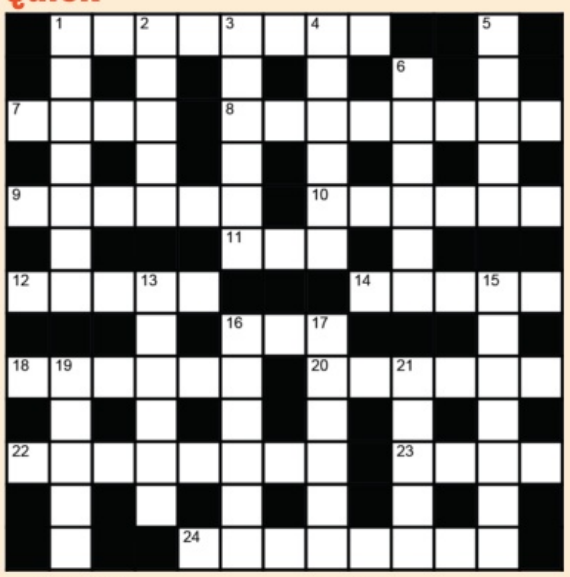
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.




Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



## Quick



**ACROSS**

1 Models or designs (8)
7 An extent of land (4)
8 Counsel (8)
9 Degrees or phases (6)
10 Vocation (6)
11 Female sheep (3)
12 Diving gear (5)
14 Suspicious or watchful (5)
16 Poisonous snake (3)
18 Annoyed or pestered (6)
20 Drive back (6)
22 Extreme cruelty (8)
23 Get together (4)
24 Five-armed sea animal (8)

**DOWN**

1 Pertaining to fever (7)
2 Plucked string sound (5)
3 Slip by; pass away (6)
4 Rookie (6)
5 Loose-limbed (5)
6 Sparse (6)
13 Mendicant (6)
15 Reinvigorate (7)
16 Coming (6)
17 A devout request (6)
19 Festival that marks the beginning of the Kannada new year (5)
21 Winsome deer (5)

## Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

**Today's CLUE: K EQUALS C**

Y DESB TBYLX C ZMYIBM. ZPCI Y KCL'I AICLG YA IPB VCVB-MZEMO.

## Linemaro

I am wearing the smile you gave me

## Mindchow

Be silent on services you have rendered, but speak of favours you have received

## Joke of the day

The truth may ring like a bell, but it is seldom tolled

## Loop

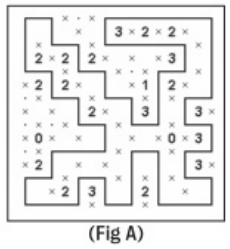
### Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

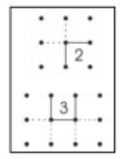
### How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

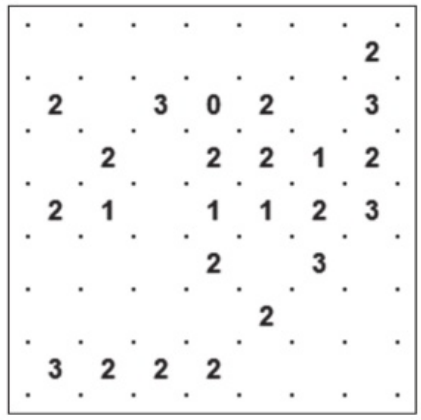
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



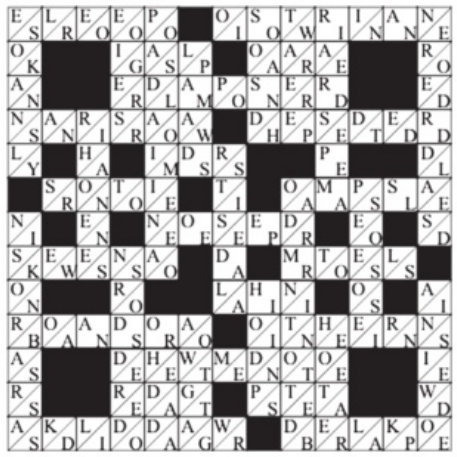
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



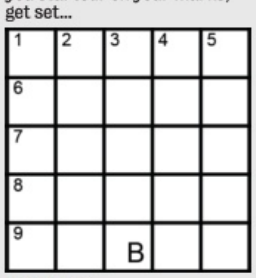
## Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

## Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...




**ACROSS**

1 Cased; 6 Do law; 7 In Gal; 8 Dimer; 9 Brief

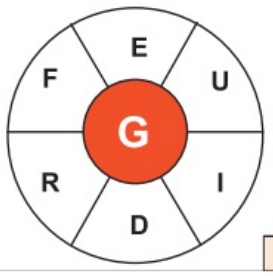
**DOWN**

1 Fr Daw; 2 Ail I a; 3 CM Lib; 4 Greed; 5 Nosed

## Mensapuzzle

Fill in the blanks to find an eight-letter word.

## Bull's eye




How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

**09** Average; **10** Good; **12** Outstanding

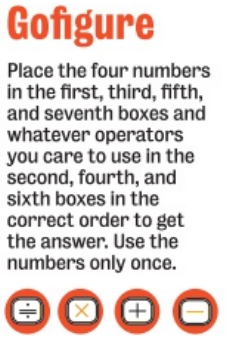
## SudokuChallenge

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 6 | 3 | | | | 4 | 9 | |
| 4 | | | | | | | | 1 |
| 1 | | | 2 | | 9 | | | 7 |
| | 8 | | 1 | | 3 | | 7 | |
| | | 7 | | | | 1 | | |
| | 2 | | 4 | | 6 | | 5 | |
| 9 | | | 5 | | 7 | | | 2 |
| 8 | | | | | | | | 4 |
| | 3 | 2 | | | | 9 | 1 | |

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

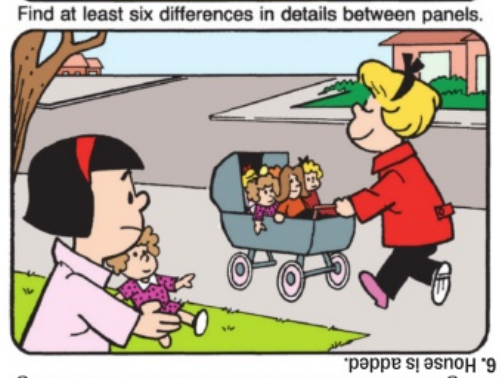
## Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.




## Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



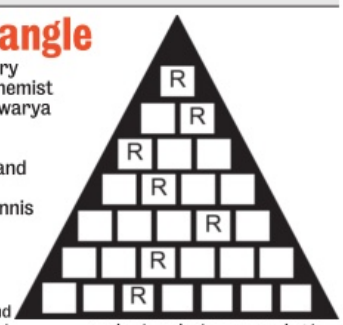
**Differences:** 1. Wheel is not showing. 2. Doll's arm is moved. 3. Leg is moved. 4. Hair ribbon is moved. 5. Doll is missing. 6. House is added.

## Riddler

I will help you with your writing, Probably through me you will see, But if you want to ship me, You'll put me right inside of me. I wear many different hats you know, In construction plus I'm tracing, I also do work for the board, Lots of kids use me for a racing. You can fold me, tear me, Rip me without using all your might, But be careful how you touch me, I may give you my famous bite. What am I?

## Alpha triangle

1 Radius in geometry
2 Iridium for the chemist
3 Bollywood's Aishwarya _ Bachchan
4 Opera part
5 Jewelled head-band
6 Albanian capital
7 Navratilova of tennis




Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

# COMICS

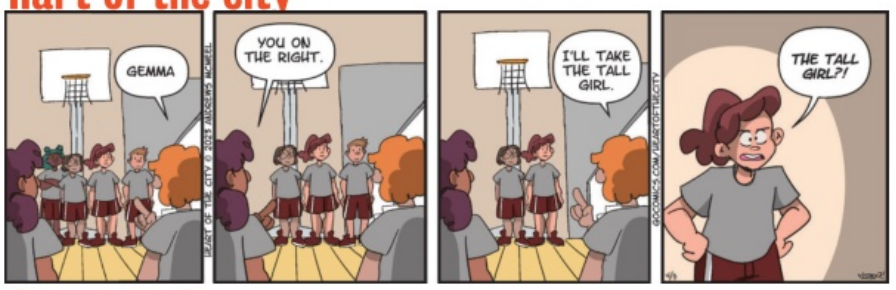
## Redeye by Mel Casson

## Bizarrotrip

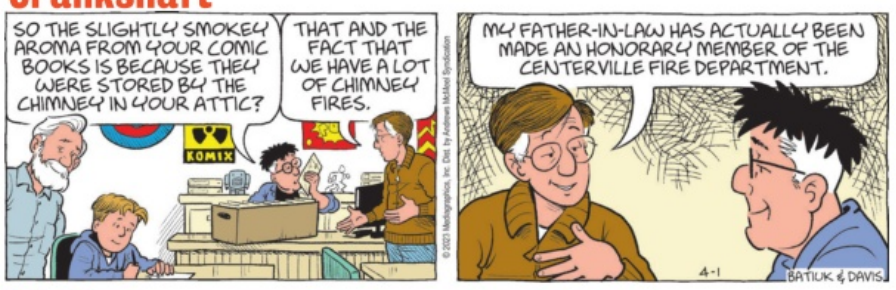
Wayno & 7 Piraro 4-5-23
Now cover your other eye and read the bottom row of emojis.
BIZARRO.COM
Dist. by King Features
©2023 Bizarro Studios

## Diamond Lil

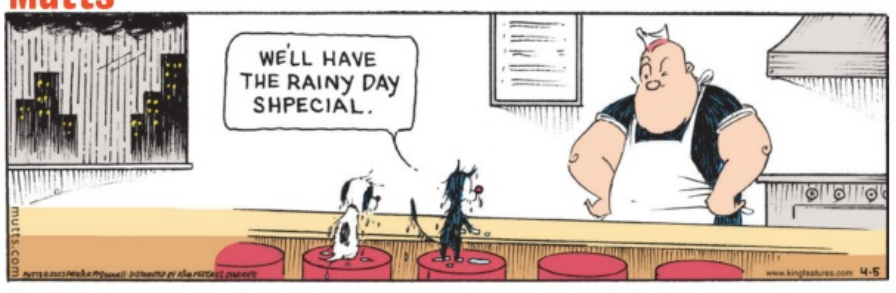
## Hart of the city




## Crankshaft


SO THE SLIGHTLY SMOKEY AROMA FROM YOUR COMIC BOOKS IS BECAUSE THEY WERE STORED BY THE CHIMNEY IN YOUR ATTIC?
THAT AND THE FACT THAT WE HAVE A LOT OF CHIMNEY FIRES.
KOMIX
MY FATHER-IN-LAW HAS ACTUALLY BEEN MADE AN HONORARY MEMBER OF THE CENTERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT.
4-1
BATIUK & DAVIS

## Mutts




# WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

**Aries** Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you are blessed by the moon, your destiny is likely to be with you. Today you may be more energetic and focused on your work. Your hard work may pay you in terms of success. Your subordinates may help you. You are likely to go for a short work related trip. Some good news may come from your sibling. You may plan to renovate your house or office where your creativity will be tested.

**Taurus** Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may be able to control your expenditure on worthless things, which may increase your savings. You may be more creative today; you may use your creativity in your office or at home, which may enhance your social status. Love birds are likely to get some support from their family members and friends for marriage.

**Gemini** May 21 – Jun 21
Today messy situations are now under control, you may feel peace in the mind. You may be able to make a proper balance in expenditure and earnings, which may increase in savings. You are advised to avoid too much travelling or overworking, it may affect your health. Students can start planning for their higher studies. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

**Cancer** Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may face health issues, which may make you impatient. You are advised to control your short temper. You may spend your hard earned money buying worthless stuff, it may affect your savings. Love birds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics, otherwise there might be some break up.

**Leo** Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may meet some influential person who may help you in the progress of your work. Your network will be strong with the help of that person. You may prepare yourself to implement new ideas into your work or business. You will plan to invest more capital into your business. That may give you financial gains in the near future. In terms of domestic life, you will be busy with family get together and social events.

**Virgo** Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today your mothers' health may be good. You may enjoy your work; you may get rewards after your hard work. Your social respect may be increased now. Overworking your mind may make you tired; due to workload, you may not be able to reach some family event.

**Libra** Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may be satisfied at work. You may plan for a short work related trip. You may also visit some religious places to maintain your inner peace. Your gurus may show you the right path, which may give you clarity in regarding your goals.

**Scorpio** Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may feel dull. It is advised to keep your mind cool; it's a golden rule for you to think twice before any act. You may travel to recover your money, otherwise you may lose your money. You are also advised to avoid going for adventure tours. Students are advised to go for in depth study to get success.

**Sagittarius** Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may plan to renovate your house. You may buy some artifacts or creative stuff, which will improve your social status. You may also invest in properties and other assets. You are likely to enjoy your romantic moments with your spouse, which will increase your emotional relationship with them. singles may find a soul mate. Love birds may make some important decisions in terms of marriage.

**Capricorn** Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may feel happy. Chronic health issues related to family members can not be cured. Money that was stuck may be recovered now, which may increase liquidity in the business. People who are in a job may get some incentives, which will improve your financial health. Job seekers may get a job with the help of any relative or friend's reference. Students may take some help from their friends in terms of academics.

**Aquarius** Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today is important for domestic life. You may be busy with kids. You may hear some good news in terms of kids' education. You may buy some creative stuff for home or office to maintain your social status. You are advised to use wisdom while buying any household stuff or jewellery.

**Pisces** Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may be impatient, which may reflect into your way of working. There may be some silly mistakes, which may stop you from completing your task. Investments in fixed assets are advised to be postponed for some days. But with the help of an elder's blessings, you may overcome the messy situation. In the evening, you may be focused towards your work.

## KIDZONE

Gagana S, 12 Years, Indiranagar Cambridge School

C Kamalesh, 12 Years, SES English School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

# SOLUTIONS

**SOLVE IN 1M**
2^2+3^2=4+9=13
...
...
8^2+9^2=64+81=145

**BULL'S EYE**
dirge, drug, figure, FIGURED, fudge, gird, grid, grief, guide, ridge, urge, urged

**FAST FIVE**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | A | G | E | S |
| W | A | L | D | O |
| A | L | I | G | N |
| R | I | M | E | D |
| F | I | B | R | E |

**RIDDLER** Paper.

**STRIKE OUT**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | L | E | E | P | | I | S | T | R | I | A | N | S | |
| O | | G | A | P | | A | R | E | | O | | | | |
| N | | E | L | A | P | S | E | D | | D | | | | |
| A | | D | E | T | E | N | T | E | | I | | | | |
| B | A | N | D | R | A | | O | T | H | E | R | S | | |
| S | E | E | N | O | | A | M | O | S | S | | A | | |
| I | N | | N | O | S | E | D | | O | | S | | | |
| R | O | T | I | | I | A | M | P | L | E | | | | |
| Y | H | | M | S | S | | E | | E | | L | | | |
| N | A | R | O | W | | H | E | E | D | E | D | | | |
| O | | G | A | P | | A | R | E | | O | | | | |
| N | | E | L | A | P | S | E | D | | D | | | | |
| S | L | E | E | P | | I | S | T | R | I | A | N | S | |

**QUICK**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | A | T | T | E | R | N | S | | L | | | | | |
| Y | W | | L | O | | S | | I | | | | | | |
| A | R | E | A | | A | D | V | O | C | A | T | E | | |
| E | | N | | P | | I | | A | | H | | | | |
| S | T | A | G | E | S | | C | A | R | E | E | R | | |
| | | I | | | | E | W | E | | | | Y | | |
| S | C | U | B | A | | L | E | E | R | Y | | | | |
| | | E | | A | S | P | | | | | | | | |
| B | U | G | G | E | D | | R | E | B | U | F | F | | |
| G | | G | | V | | A | | A | | R | | | | |
| S | A | V | A | G | E | R | Y | | M | E | E | T | | |
| D | | R | | N | | E | | B | | S | | | | |
| S | T | A | R | F | I | S | H | | | | | | | |
| I | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

**MENSA PUZZLE**
YASHMAKS

**QUOTE UNCODE**
I love being a writer. What I can't stand is the paperwork.

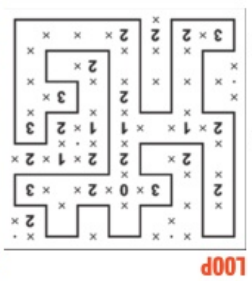
**SUDOKU**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 8 |
| 4 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| 1 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 7 |
| 5 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 6 |
| 6 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 9 |
| 9 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 2 |
| 8 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 4 |
| 7 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 5 |

**ALPHA TRIANGLE**
R, In, Hal, Arha, Tiara, Tirana, Martina.

**GO FIGURE**
Easy
2 + 6 + 2 + 8 = 18
Medium
5 + 5 – 5 x 5 = 25
Hard
8 – 7 + 6 – 2 = 5

**LOOP**



**KAKURO**

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# CLIQUE BAIT

## Actress reveals B-Town has impermeable circles you can't enter, but OTT has changed game

In the last decade, Sayani Gupta has worked with a range of filmmakers and has played diverse roles in films like Fan,

Margarita With A Straw, Jolly LLB 2, Pagglait, Article 15 and others. The actress says that the industry is changing for the

better, but cliques continue to exist, and every outsider has to figure out a way to navigate around them. However,

Sayani believes that OTT has changed the game for actors like her.

"The inner circle is very well-knit, quite impermeable, and impossible to enter. One or two may be able to, but the core still is very dense and even if you get close, you just can't get inside there," Sayani says. The actress who has worked in films with Shah Rukh Khan, Akshay Kumar, Ranbir Kapoor and others, feels that there is nothing wrong about this and generally, everyone is "really sweet and warm". "I have been told by friends who are older actors and have been in the industry for 20-25 years, that the system is such that they will never let you enter it. I don't know how true that is for others, but to me it does feel kind of true. There is nothing wrong or right about this,. It's just how things are. But having said that, I don't think it really matters in terms of doing good work."

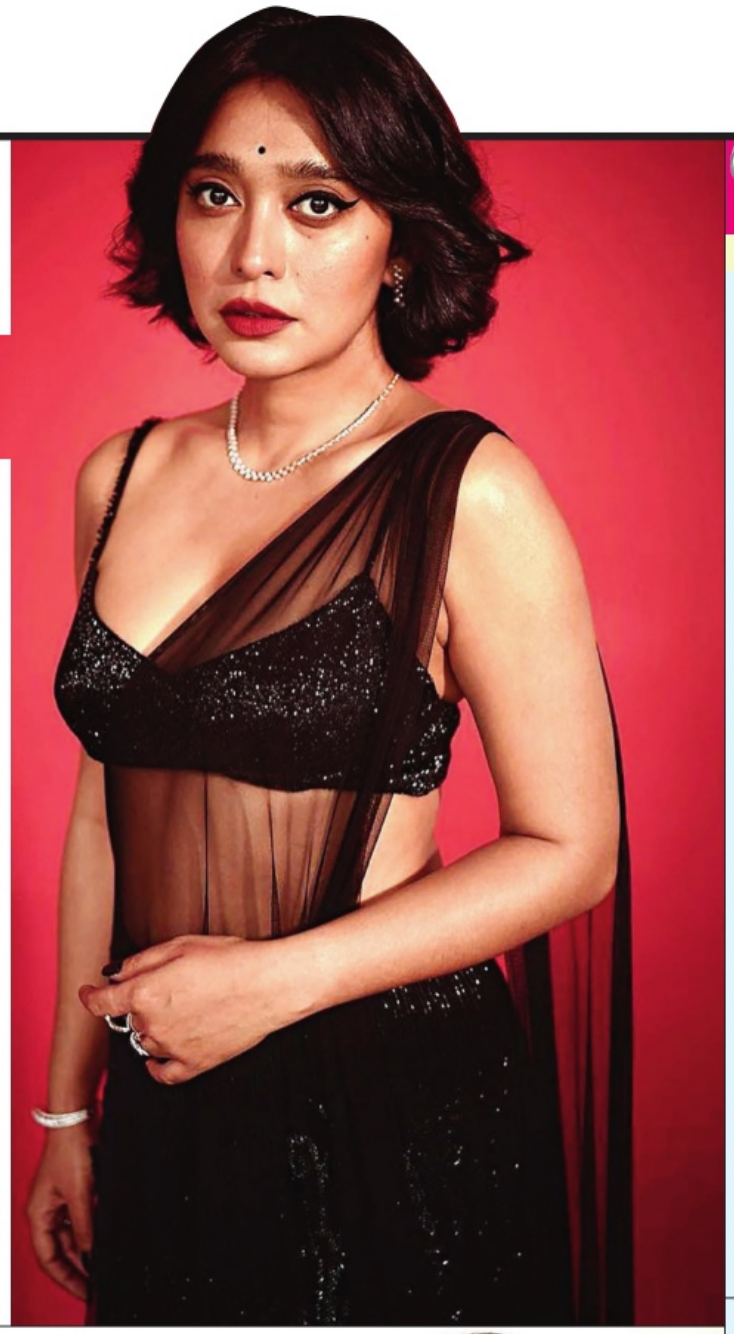
Sayani believes that there are multiple factors that are at work when it comes to getting a big break here and for someone who does not know the right people, it is tough. "It is just way harder for people from outside to get in. Everything in this industry is based on contacts and how many people you know. Of course, talent and merit matter, but so do other factors like how many rooms you can get into and how many people are excited about you. There are too many factors actually. I am realising all this only with

time, and from my friends, and from other people's experiences here."

The Hindi film industry has changed over the years and with the phenomenal rise of OTT that change has become quite

apparent. Sayani agrees, "Yes there has been a change and OTT is a huge reason for it. Now even with casting directors, things are more streamlined. A lot has changed for the better."

—**Debarati S Sen / ETimes**



## SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

### New talent welcome

Yashaswi Shankar is elated over the success of his maiden Kannada movie Radha Searching Ramana Missing, which he and Savitha Yashaswi have under the Saanvi Picture & Animations banner. The positive response to the movie released last week has pleased the producers, who are both from Mysuru.

"The specialty of Radha Searching Ramana Missing is that all the actors are newcomers. My intention is to encourage new talent by giving them a chance to showcase their skills. We will continue to make Kannada movies with newcomers," said Yashaswi.

The movie directed by MN Srikanth from Mysuru revolves around two lovers – Radha and Ramana and is about how Radha succeeds in finding her lover during her journey. "I am happy with director Srikanth who debuts as a director in Sandalwood with this film," said Yashaswi, adding that Melkote MLA Darshan Puttannaiah plays an important role in the movie. Raghav, Sanjana Burli, Darshan Puttannaiahare the some of the cast of the movie.

### New avatar

Vasishta N Simha, who shared the silver screen with his better half Hari Priya in the film Yadha Yadha Hi that released last week, is all set to appear in a new avatar in the film Love Li. Stefy Patel, who has acted in Tamil and Telugu movies, debuts as a heroine in Sandalwood with this film, directed by Chethan Keshav. A song from the movie was released at a function organised at MMB Legacy on Saturday. Crazy Star Ravichandran, Real Star Upendra and Priyanka Upendra, and Lovely Prem attended the function and wished the cast and crew the best.

"Vasishta and Stefy's performance is appreciable," said Prem.

Upendra and his wife Priyanka too appreciated the director and the actors. "After watching the song, I have decided to watch the movie. I liked the scene where the heroine uses the mirror of the hero's two-wheeler to apply lipstick while the hero is busy talking on the phone," said Upendra. Haripriya said Vasishta will appear in a new avatar in the film. "Vasishta is a classy person in real life. He has been appearing as a rough person on screen, but in Love Li, he will be seen as a classy person," said Haripriya.

**Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code**

### Man and machine

These Bollywood hunks just can't get enough of their bikes

### Fee hike?

Despite acting primarily in Telugu movies, Samantha Ruth Prabhu is now a huge name in Bollywood as well, thanks to her stint as the rakish antagonist in the web series The Family Man, directed by Raj & DK.

Now, the duo are working with her again in the Indian version of the global spy series Citadel, co-starring Varun Dhawan. Recently, there were reports that after the success of The Family Man, Samanthaha's hiked her fee for Citadel and is now charging a whopping 10 crore for the pan India series. However, there is no confirmation of this report, yet.

Samantha has been having a busy year, from the word go. The actress, who has already had a release this year, is now busy with the shoots of her upcoming projects. She recently shared pictures with the co-star of her upcoming romcom Kushi, Vijay Deverakonda amid their shoot for the film in Turkey. —**ETimes**

### Actress, producer

Kriti Sanon has joined the list of actors to turn producers.

While she awaits the release of her most ambitious film 'Adipurush', the actress is busy making inroads into the OTT space. According to a news portal, Kriti is all set to turn producer with an OTT movie.

The actress has reportedly greenlist the script and will also star in it. This year, Kriti Sanon completed nine years in the film industry.

Speaking about her journey, the actress had shared, "I'm happy with where I am today, but I still feel that I am not even close to exploring half of my potential. So, you just believe in yourself and hold on closely to the people who are with you when you are not doing well!" —**ETimes**